Project Information

CELTIC Telecommunication Solutions

Enabling Community Communications – Platforms and Applications phase 2

The mission of EnComPAs2 is to significantly increase the user acceptance of networked systems and applications within the Extended Home context by enabling and creating innovative interoperable value-added networked services.

The starting point for the project is the outcome of the successful Celtic project EnComPAs.

Main focus

EnComPAs2 will focus on the implementation of an end-to-end provisioning platform and converged residential services, including the Extended Home concept and the ambient intelligence concept. These areas fit the home service market trends.

It aims at supporting the communication needs of the many social communities in which families take part (school, local communities, hospitals, colleagues, hobbies, friends...) centred in the emerging Social Media Applications (SMA) and e-Health related services.

The infrastructure will incorporate EnComPAs phase 1 platform, to which components to ensure service delivery (WAN to LAN, FMC), service continuity and profile information gathering will be added.

The socio-cultural factors and end-user aspects will be one cornerstone of the project, exploiting the potential of personal contents and community-based applications.

The integration and vali-dation (technical, social…) of the infrastructure and services will be performed through a Pan-European laboratory, user experiences and field trials.

Approach

EnComPAs2 focuses on the Extended Home concept including a broader list of scenarios that will be decided and described during the project. Some potential extensions have been identified as starting points: services outside the home, on the streets, in the car, and scenarios combining both home and outdoor environments. An additional objective is to implement service continuity of the applications, including handover and nomadic services.

The application design process is focused on identifying, developing and deploying services and applications that are attractive and provide a better user experience in everyday life for the end-users, with special focus on user communities and context aware applications. Some building blocks of transversal applications, such as personal content management, multiple device TV watching, and customization of end
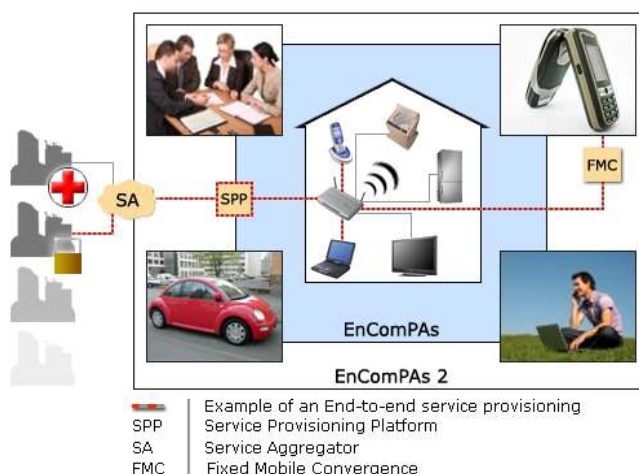
EnComPas_2

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EnComPAs

EnComPAs 2

Example of an End-to-end service provisioning
SPP   Service Provisioning Platform
SA   Service Aggregator
FMC   Fixed Mobile Convergence

devices, are also within the scope of the project.

The provisioning platform used in EnComPAs phase 1 will be reviewed and extended, with the aim to allow the inclusion of content and services for large numbers of end users in multiple scenarios. This platform follows a layered approach: network management (TR69 based, including service provision assurance at network level), service provisioning (OSGi service aggregator, including customization and automatic gathering of user profile information) and application management to implement service continuity and context awareness techniques.

Finally, the results will be tested at European level in laboratories, existing demonstrators and pre-commercial field trials to assure technical viability and user acceptance as well as to study the related operational and business aspects. The aim is to reach a critical mass of users, applications, services, and contents.

Main results

The results of EnComPAs2 project fall into three major categories of different nature:

About Celtic

Celtic is a European research and development programme, designed to strengthen Europe's competitiveness in telecommunications through short and medium term collaborative R&D projects. Celtic is currently the only European R&D programme fully dedicated to end-to-end telecommunication solutions.

Timeframe: 8 years, from 2004 to 2011

Clusterbudget: in the range of 1 billion euro, shared between governments and private participants

Platform development: The evolution of the platform developed in EnComPAs phase 1 will result in an application provisioning platform with new functionalities. The remote home network management, including the configuration of the home devices, will include automatic diagnostics and user triggered configuration mechanisms. In order to allow ambient intelligence, the platform will be capable of creating user profiles and managing information regarding presence, customization and context awareness. The possibility to deliver continuity of services between different domains of the extended home will provide true nomadic services. This platform will implement the service aggregator model and support multiple service providers.

Services and applications development: The design process for developing services and applications is also a target of research in EnComPAs2, developing further a people centric co-design approach, introduced in EnComPAs phase 1.

Tests and trials: The output from this activity is key as it was shown in EnComPAs phase 1. EnComPAs2 will continue to build the

Participants: small, medium and large companies from telecommunications industry, universities, research institutes, and local authorities from all 35 Eureka countries.

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integrated test-bed that was initiated in phase 1, allowing services and platform to interoperate in tests at the European level. User acceptance tests and the posterior analysis of user responses will be shared to contribute to the European weft

Impact

The successful results of EnComPAs phase 1, such as MyOwnTV, deployed in the city of Lommel, proved relevant to recent trends of the residential market. The challenge for EnComPAs2 is to broaden the range of available services and the scenarios where they are provided. This is a superset of the fixed to mobile convergence initiative, now a main concern for telecom operators.

As these services should be provided seamlessly and virtually anywhere, an impact is foreseen in the customer care procedures. The challenges for service providers and operators are quite high and should be studied. However at the same time, the opportunities to enlarge the potential market of the extended home applications with plug and play solutions, hiding the technologies, are very promising and interesting to the business actors.

The development of services through a market and user oriented methodology is expected to have an impact. The scenarios will contribute to the growing knowledge of ecosystem awareness and eHealth as well as to the relatively new Social Media Applications.

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